(b) whether any verification has been made to ascertain the authenticity of those charges and if so, what is the outcome thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take against each of such Ministers?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) A communication has been received from a Member of Parliament regarding certain allegations against a Union Minister which is in the process of being examined.

Encroachments in Government Colonies

773. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the area-wise unauthorised encroachments detected in Government colonies under the jurisdiction of Deputy Commissioner of Police (South-West District). New Delhi;

(b) what action has so far been taken by police authorities to romove these encroachments as on 31.5.98;

(c) whether it is a fact that instead of initiating action to remove the encroachments the encroachers are making expansions of their encroachments;

(d) if so, the detailed reasons for the inability of police authorities in the removal of encroachments; and

(e) the action Government propose to take to remove these encroachments and by when these are likely to be removed?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Invoking of Article 356

774. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Prime Minister's attention has been drawn to the statement being made by some of his colleagues in the Cabinet on various occasions on invoking Article 356 against State Governments in their respective States; and

(b) if so, what is Government's accepted policy in regard to the invoking of Article 356?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Constitution of India clearly mentions the situation in which article 356 can be invoked. The said article can be invoked if the President, on receipt of a report from the Governor of a State or otherwise, is satisfied that a situation has arisen in which the government of the State cannot be carried on in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution. The Government is against any misuse of the said article.

Multipurpose Identity Cards

775. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to introduce multipurpose identity cards to every citizen in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The proposal is to issue multipurpose National Identity Cards to all citizens of 14 years and above. The persons below 14 years are to be compulsorily registered under Registration of Births & Deaths Act, 1969 and the names of such persons are proposed to be included in father's/mother's cards. Separate coloured cards are proposed to be issued to non-citizens. The multipurpose National Identity Cards are proposed to be used for the purpose of issuing passports, driving licences, ration cards, health care, admission in educational institutions, employment in public/private sectors, life and general insurance as also for maintenance of land records and urban property holdings etc.

Recommendations of Dharam Vira National Police Commission

776. SHRI KULDIP NAYYAR:
SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Supreme Court has directed the Government for speedy implementation of 20-years old Dharam Vira National Police Commission recommendations; and